

Message Text

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21

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 INT-05 /108 W

----- 019650

R 170855Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5981

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 3897

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, SN

SUBJECT: LEE KUAN YEW DECIDES NOT TO ATTEND NAM SUMMIT MEETING

1. PERMSEC FOR MFA, CHIA CHEONG FOOK, INFORMED AMBASSADOR AT
INDONESIAN NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION AUGUST 17 THAT PRIME
MINISTER LEE WOULD DEFINITELY NOT ATTEND THE NAM SUMMIT METING
IN COLOMBO. LEE HAD DELAYED DECISION UNTIL EVENING OF AUGUST 16,
BUT HAD FINALLY DECIDED THAT HIS TIME COULD MORE PRODUCTIVELY
BE SPENT IN SINGAPORE.

2. AT THE NATIONAL DAY PARADE ON AUGUST 9, THE PRIME MINISTER
TOLD SOME MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS THAT HE WOULD
PROBABLY ATTEND THE NAM SUMMIT FOR ONE DAY. PRIOR TO HIS DE-
PARTURE FOR COLOMBO AUGUST 10, FOREIGN MINISTER RAJARATNAM TOLD
THE PRESS THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD NOT ATTEND THE NON-ALIGNED
SUMMIT IF THE NATIONS ATTENDING IT DID NOT TAKE THEMSELVES
SERIOUSLY. "IF IT IS CLEAR IT IS SERIOUS, THEN THE PRIME MINIS-
TER WILL CONTRIBUTE TO IT ... IF IT IS PURELY A LINING UP OF
COUNTRIES TO SUPPORT THIS POWER OR THAT, IT WILL BE A WASTE
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OF TIME."

3. COMMENT: WE THINK IT PROBABLE THAT THE PRIME MINISTER
DECIDED TO WAIT UNTIL HE RECEIVED A REPORT FROM RAJARATNAM
ON HOW THE CONFERENCE WAS SHAPING UP BEFORE MAKING A FINAL
DECISION WHETHER TO ATTEND. RAJA'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION
WERE APPARENTLY NEGATIVE.
HOLDRIDGE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NONALIGNED NATIONS MEETINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976SINGAP03897
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760315-0299
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760846/aaaabnsy.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 MAY 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <23 SEP 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEE KUAN YEW DECIDES NOT TO ATTEND NAM SUMMIT MEETING
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, SN, (LEE KUAN YEW)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006